



Jack Montgomery Testifies That He Was So Overcome With Philadelphia Whiskey That He Knew Nothing About the Ceremony, and the Taxicab Driver Swore That It Was Necessary to Hold Up the Young Multi-Millionaire in His Arms While Peggy Herself Furnished Her Own Ring to Seal the Ceremony.

From the recent trial of Jack Montgomery's annulment suit in the Elkton, Maryland, court, which is still being tried before Judge Wickes.

QUESTION BY LAWYER WOLF (Attorney for Peggy) — Your name is Mrs. Peggy Montgomery? **ANSWER BY PEGGY UDELL MONTGOMERY** — Yes, sir.

QUESTION — Up to the time you went with the "Follies" show the past year had you been living with your parents?

ANSWER — Why, I had always been on the stage since I was four years old, but my mother had always chaperoned me, and this was the first time in my life I had ever been anywhere without my mother.

Q. — How old were you when this marriage took place?

A. — I was sixteen the day I was married, and the next day was my birthday; it was my seventeenth birthday.

Q. — Now, your husband has filed this suit against you to have this marriage annulled. Begin around the first time you met him and tell us in your own way what took place?

A. — I was introduced to my husband by Miss Vera Forbes, a very good girl friend of mine in my show. She had been very ill that evening and she couldn't go along in the party, but she made us promise to go ourselves, meaning Miss Diane Adele Gordon and myself. Jack Montgomery and Bobby Burger and Andy Bartlett, I think his name is, were waiting at the stage door in a sedan automobile. I did not think I would go myself, but the boys begged me and I immediately liked Jack Montgomery the minute I laid eyes on him. I guess it was a case of love at first sight.

(A tear moistened Peggy's big eyes).

Q. — Now, try to pull yourself together for a few minutes, Miss Peggy.

A. — We got in the machine and we drove around for a while. I told the boys I would only drive a little while and then I would go back to the hotel. They told me the air would do me good and I really thought it would myself. That was the first time I had gone out since the show came to Philadelphia. We did not know anybody and these were the first young boys we met since we arrived in Philadelphia.

Q. — Do you know how long that was before you were married?

A. — Thirteen days exactly. I met him on the 13th, on Friday, and was married on the 26th.

Q. — Then you went out for a ride and what happened?

A. — We went up to the Rittenhouse Hotel and Adele and Bob danced, but I did not dance that evening. I was not feeling well enough to dance. Jack started in telling me how much he thought of me. He thought I was the most wonderful girl he had ever seen and had wonderful eyes and hair and lips and everything.

Q. — Go ahead.

A. — Well, he really proposed to me the first night I met him. I said, Jack—I called him Jack because he asked me and then in turn I said, you may call me Peggy—I said, listen, Jack, our show is here for three weeks in Philadelphia and if at the end of three weeks if we think we love each other enough to get engaged let us set the engagement for May, and he said, all right. After Adele and Bobby and Andy had some dances we had some lunch at some cafe. Then we decided we would have to go home. But they suggested going for a ride, and it certainly was a lovely evening to drive, and we went and came back about 1:30 to the Hamilton Hotel.

Then Jack and Bobby and Andy and

With Many Tears the Pretty "Follies Girl" Bride of the Rich Young Millionaire School-Boy Tells How She and

Peggy Udell's

Jack Montgomery Taxied All Night Through Three States with a Breezy Bunch of Friends Until They Found an Obliging Clergyman.



Peggy Udell at Her Early Morning Wedding Breakfast of Coffee and Doughnuts in an All-Night Beef-and-Beans Restaurant—And—One of Peggy's Scenes in a "Follies" Tableau. Miss Peggy, Is the Fourth Girl from the Left, Lying Down.

Adele and I went to the hotel. In this hotel you are not allowed to have men guests in the room, so we stayed outside of the hotel and we were talking. Jack and I were talking on the side and Bobby and Andy and Adele were talking together. So then Jack told me he was going out-of-town and asked me—and I kind of blushed, I knew that he wanted to know if he couldn't see me—he wanted to know if he could see me the next day. I said yes.

I really did want to see him. So I saw him the next day. Then he proposed again. Now, the fifth time he proposed was when I had an engagement with a friend of mine from New York, a rather middle-aged man I knew quite well; his name was Mr. Reppe. He was coming to Philadelphia on business in about two weeks and wanted me to save this Saturday for him. I don't know the date.

Jack called for me at the stage entrance that day and wanted to take me to dinner, but I told him I was very, very sorry, that I would love to go to dinner, but I would not be able to go because I had made this engagement two weeks before and could not break the engagement because the party was waiting for me in the lobby. Jack was rather huffy about that. He didn't like me going out with anybody else. But we really were not engaged at that time, and right then and there he says, you are going to marry me before you leave this town. Then he told me how much he thought of me and how much he loved me, and I really took him very seriously.

Then he said that very next night we would go out and we would be married. I had not promised the very next night, but I said I would marry him before our show left Philadelphia. So on this night of the 25th we had this engagement. During the show Bobby Berger wrote a note asking me to get two other young ladies for Mr. Gardner and John Sloan, I believe his name was, and I tried to get Miss Polly Nally. She went with us, but Miss Forbes could not go—Vera could not go. Then there were just three girls and four boys.

After the show we met the boys. They were outside and had a taxi waiting, and they were going to take us home to the Hotel Walton. Jack took my arm and started to assist me in the cab, and he

also kissed me, and if he had been drinking I certainly would have smelled the liquor when he kissed me.

Jack was afraid if I ever left the city without first becoming his wife, he was afraid he would lose me and he did not want to take a chance of losing me, and now he says he don't want me and I know why he says that—

(Peggy dissolves into tears).

Q. — Now, hold yourself together a minute. Then what happened?

A. — We stayed at the hotel where Miss Nally was staying and she wanted to go upstairs and change her dress, so we waited a while and Jack and I got impatient and we told Paul and Bobby that they could go in and wait for Miss Nally, and Jack and I were going across the street to the Walton Roof and we stood together in the lobby waiting for them. We had no trouble getting in the Walton Roof. All the waiter said was, how many are in the party. The boys were drinking ginger ale, and if they put liquor in there I would have seen it. I was sitting right next to Jack and if he put liquor in there I would have seen it. Adele and Polly and I had lemonades.

We had not been dancing before, so I danced with Jack because I really enjoyed dancing with Jack, and finally when the music stopped and the Walton Roof was going to close—it was about 1 o'clock. Then I was sitting at the table with Jack and we were talking. Jack said, now, listen, Peggy, your show leaves day after to-morrow. You are going to marry me to-night, you are going to marry me to-night before you go out-of-town. He said, if you love me really and truly you will marry me to-night. I said, of course, Jack, I will marry you to-night, you know how much I love you. So we got our hats and coats and he was simply tickled to death that we were going to get married, and I turned around and said to Jack in a joking manner, because we have been married three weeks don't think you don't have to help me on with my coat. Polly Nally said, don't be ridiculous, Jack, Peggy would not marry the best man on this earth. I said, no, Polly, I am going to get married. Adele Gordon said, you can't get married anywhere in Philadelphia to-night. I said, well, if we can't we

will go out of the city and get married.

Q. — Go on.

A. — This Paul Gardner didn't seem to be a very nice boy. He tried putting his arm around Polly in the Walton Roof, and Polly said, if you don't stop that I am going to have you put out of the place. I spoke to Jack and told him to speak to Paul and everything was all right when we left. After we got downstairs Jack said, we will have to get a cab, and then we got outside we got into this first cab, which was this gentleman's cab over there (indicating a chauffeur). Then we decided that his cab wasn't large enough and then Jack and I got out and we walked into this cab, and I wasn't dragging or pulling his shirt open like they claim I did a number of times. We knew we couldn't get the whole party in and we got out and were looking for another cab. Then Jack spied this cab over there. He said, we will take this limousine over there because it is larger.

Paul Gardner said, Jack, come over here, and he spoke rather loud. He said, do you mean to tell me you are going to get married to a common old chorus girl, none of those girls are any good. Of course, I felt awfully hurt about it. When we got in the cab I said, Jack, we are going to take Paul Gardner and John Sloan home because I do not like their company. While we were in the cab this Paul Gardner got very fresh and I threatened to slap him. When we got to the Bellevue-Stratford, the chauffeur opened the door and we let Paul and John out. They dragged Jack out, and insisted upon talking to him. He says, all right, I will talk to you if you want, but I am going to marry Peggy to-night. When he got out I heard Paul say, she is nothing but a common chorus girl, your mother wouldn't stand for that girl.

I think that my family is just as respectable as Gardner's, Sloan's and Jack's. At least, my brother isn't in the habit of getting drunk and these chauffeurs said—

Q. — Never mind about the chauffeurs, I will attend to them. You tell what happened. You got back in the cab.

A. — When Paul Gardner said about me being a common chorus girl and Polly and Adele, Jack said, I don't care what she is, I am going to marry her regardless of what you say. He said, I know Peggy

THREE bottles of whiskey, three "Follies" girls, four Prep. School boys, one taxicab, two chauffeurs and a clergyman, in the hours between midnight and dawn, succeeded in accomplishing a matrimonial mess which it will take thousands of dollars and many days in court to untangle.

John W. Montgomery, one of the wealthiest young men in Pennsylvania, who had reached the mature age of twenty years, joined his schoolboy companions and picked up at the stage door three obliging young women of the "Follies" company at a Philadelphia theatre after the show one night last January.

The details of what happened during the hours from midnight until the next forenoon have been told recently in the divorce court in Elkton, Maryland, by Jack Montgomery, the groom, and Miss Peggy Udell, the chorus girl bride of the young millionaire. The boy declares that he was so drunk that he knew nothing about what happened until he woke up in the taxicab and heard somebody say that he was married, and, looking about in bewilderment, inquired quite naturally which one of the three ladies of the chorus on the back seat of the cab was his wife.

The suit for annulment of this extraordinary marriage is brought by the boy, and he was put on the witness stand and gave his testimony first. But the editor presents first the testimony of Miss Peggy, the bride, because it is a very complete and detailed picture of the rapid-fire events of those busy hours. Peggy's real name, by the way, is U'Nertle, but she is known on the stage as Peggy Udell.

There is a lesson in this testimony printed on this page to-day, which rich parents of idle boys may well read with profit. If these boys had not been liberally supplied with money the events of that night could scarcely have happened.

water, and I said, bring me one, too. But there was not absolutely a drop of liquor in that car, and if there had been I wouldn't have married Jack, and if he had been in the habit of getting drunk like they say now I wouldn't have married him. We drove along and we came to Wilmington, Delaware, and we stopped at this court house or police station, whichever it was, and were frozen stiff. We couldn't tell we had feet at all. We went into this place. Jack had my arm—rather, I had Jack's arm—and we spoke to the police captain, and Jack said, can we get married here? He said, have you a license? Jack said, no, we haven't any license. He said, you will have to get a license. He said, I am perfectly willing to get a license, where can I get one? Then the Captain said, you have to live twenty-four hours in the State before anybody can get a license in the State of Delaware.

I could not wait that long, as I had to be back to rehearsal. Jack said, where can we get married? And the Chief suggested Elkton, Maryland. Jack said, well, we are this far, we are not going back now. This Captain gave us seats to sit down and asked which of the young ladies was the young lady to be married.

Before we got started Jack said, I am going to call up a friend of mine here in Wilmington, Delaware—I don't remember the name of the boy—but he went over and picked up the receiver and called up the number—you see, he had memorized this number—and he introduced me over the phone to this boy as his future wife. He said, I would like

very much to meet his wife, because Jack is such a lovely boy his wife must be just as lovely, so I was awfully pleased about that. Then we went back to the table and Jack ate the sandwich. Both the chauffeurs insisted on sitting at our table, so I said I am not used to eating at tables with chauffeurs.

Then we drove on and came to the telephone station and it looked so inviting and we were so cold, and you know that is quite a ride. We took our shoes off the first thing and put our feet right on the radiators to thaw our feet. We were getting very warm. I don't know what they mean by crap game. I did not see any dice around there, and later Adele was writing things on the blackboard. I wrote, "John W. Montgomery and Peggy Gladys U'Dell," and then cancelled off the letters like you do that. Then later Jack says he would go up to see where he could get a minister to marry us. If they were both so drunk how was it that Bob Berger got a telephone book and picked out certain names and Jack telephoned?

So finally they got the name of this county clerk and then they spoke to him and he wanted—let's see—I think that was exactly ten minutes to five when we called this Mr. McAllister. He said it would take him at least an hour at the least to get dressed, and we said, all right, we would wait. Then we decided in the meantime to go out and look up a minister. So we got back in the car after putting our slippers on and we were feeling very nice, and Jack did skip out of the building feeling very good and singing very softly and then assisted me in

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The Court House at Elkton, Maryland, Where Jack Montgomery Procured His Wedding License and Where the Annulment Suit Is Being Tried.

and she is the sweetest little girl in the world, and then he got back in the cab and I did not drag him in—how could I drag a big six-footer all over Philadelphia like they say I did? Then we got back in the cab and this chauffeur, this stout chauffeur—

Q. — Miss Peggy, we don't care about those details—did you get married there?

A. — No, we didn't get married there because there was nobody there that could marry us.

Q. — Then what happened?

A. — Jack said, I am sure we won't be able to get married in Philadelphia. He said, you have to get a license and the Clerk won't be in the office until morning and I insist on getting married to-night. Bob Berger said, I have an idea, let us drive down to Wilmington, Delaware, and get married there, and Jack said, that is great. Bob Berger commenced feeling very ill and very sick. I had met Bob before and he had complained of heart trouble and he said his physician said his heart was very, very weak and he might have an attack of heart trouble most any day. Bob was walking up and down for the air, and all of a sudden he clutched at his heart and fainted and Jack and the assistant chauffeur helped to carry Bob in the cab and we gave him a drink of water and we brought him to. But there was no pulling open of the shirt or anything like that, because I would not for a minute do that with a man, except to give him water.

Then we drove on. They were speaking about the windows being open. The windows were closed and there were no shades drawn. Then we stopped at Darby. Jack went in to get some cigarettes and Adele said, bring me a glass of